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(54) Title: SAMPLE PREPARATION FOR THE DETECTION OF INFECTIOUS AGENTS

(57) Abstract: Methods for improving the quality of sub-optimal patient samples for detection of infectious agents are described. In particular, endocervical fluid samples or vaginal fluid samples are treated with DNase to improve the reliability of detection of infectious agents. Kits for carrying out the methods are also described.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

CHEM ABS Data, BIOSIS, EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	TARKOWSKI T ET AL: "IMPROVED DETECTION OF VIRAL RNA ISOLATED FROM LIQUID-BASED CYTOLOGY SAMPLES" MOLECULAR DIAGNOSIS, NAPERVILLE, IL, US, vol. 6, no. 2, 2001, pages 125-130, XP008007064 ISSN: 1084-8592 cited in the application the whole document --- -/-	1



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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>WIEDORN KLAUS HERMANN ET AL: "Comparison of in-situ hybridization, direct and indirect in-situ PCR as well as tyramide signal amplification for the detection of HPV."</p> <p>HISTOCHEMISTRY AND CELL BIOLOGY, vol. 111, no. 2, February 1999 (1999-02), pages 89-95, XP002206211</p> <p>ISSN: 0948-6143</p> <p>the whole document</p>	4,5,10, 19,21